

*The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.*

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on May 15, 2019 the Department of Public Health Complex, 410--470 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in room 470 A/B.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair  
Jason Blando, Public Member  
Mary M. Brown, RN  
Elizaida Delgado, LPN  
Mary Dietmann, RN  
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member  
Jennifer Long, APRN  
Geraldine Marrocco, RN

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gina M. Reiners, RN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Dana Dalton, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Deborah Brown, Health Program Associate  
Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH  
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH  
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

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Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**STUDENTS**

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Lincoln Technical Institute.

**OPEN FORUM**

Nothing to report

**NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE BOARDS OF NURSING**

Nothing to report

**CHAIR UPDATES**

Chair Bouffard reported she participated in a National Council State Boards of Nursing education committee telephone conference,

**ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann to add to the agenda a Department of Public Health Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges in the matter of Heather Breen, RN. The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve, as edited, the minutes, from the April 17, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously

## SCHOOL ISSUES

### Porter & Chester Institute

- Approval of Nursing Education Supervisor – Hamden Campus

Maria Sparmer was present on behalf of Porter & Chester Institute.

The Board reviewed a request to approve a Nursing Education Supervisor at the Hamden campus.

This matter was tabled for further documentation to be submitted.

- Investigation of complaint by former student

Sabrina Gionfriddo was present for this discussion. Helen Smith Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a synopsis of the Department of Public Health's review of Ms. Gionfriddo's complaint.

The Board requested that MS. Gionfriddo provide additional information to the DPH for review at the June 19, 2019 meeting.

### Southern Connecticut State University – Approval of Department Chairperson

Cheryl Resha was present from Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU). Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve Dr. Resha as Chairperson of the Department of Nursing at SCSU.

### University of Connecticut School of Nursing– Permanent Waiver Requests

Angela Starkweather was present on behalf of the UCONN School of Nursing.

The Board reviewed requests for four permanent waivers.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to grant a permanent waiver to allow Thomas Van Hoof, MD, EdD. to teach Nursing 1130, Health Care Delivery Systems. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann, Geraldine Marrocco and Jason Blando who were opposed.

Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to grant a permanent waiver to allow Michelle-Judge, PhD to teach Nursing 3100, Clinical Science I and Nursing 3110 Clinical Science II. The motion failed unanimously. The Board determined that Dr. Judge is not qualified to teach these courses as they pertain to pharmacology.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Lisa Freeman, to grant a permanent waiver to allow Thomas Long, PhD to teach Nursing 3715W, Nursing Leadership writing sections. The motion failed unanimously.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant a permanent waiver to allow Thomas Long, PhD to teach Nursing 4265, Nursing Past as Prologue. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann, Geraldine Marrocco and Jason Blando who were opposed and Elizaida Delgado who abstained.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant a permanent waiver to allow Stephen Walsh, ScD. to teach Nursing 5020, Statistical Methods in Health Science Research. The motion passed with all in favor except Mary Dietmann, Geraldine Marrocco and Jason Blando who were opposed.

The Board expressed its concerns that these individuals have been teaching for many years without the UCONN School of Nursing seeking permanent waivers, which is a violation of State statutes and regulations.

Hearing Officer Stacy Schulman will inquire of the Office of the Attorney General as to whether the Board can take any action regarding these violations.

The Board requested that UCONN provide to the Department of Public Health for review, a list of nursing school faculty and their credentials.

UCONN also requested a waiver of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 20-90-48 (b) which requires that contractual agreements between a nursing education program and cooperating health care entities be renewed at least every third year. The Board commented that there is no provision in the regulations to grant a waiver of this requirement.

### **NCLEX SCORES**

The Board reviewed the NCLEX Scores for licensed practical nurse and registered nurse education programs for the time period May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019.

All of the registered nurse programs have met the requirement that at least 80% of students taking the licensing examination passed on their first attempt.

All licensed practical nurse programs met this requirement except for Stone Academy's West Haven Campus Day Program and Porter & Chester Institute's Rocky Hill Day Program and Stratford Evening Program. Stone Academy and Porter & Chester are to attend the June 19, 2019 meeting with their plan of correction.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove conditional approval of Porter & Chester Institute's Stratford Day Program due to compliance with the passing rate requirement. The motion passed unanimously. Conditional approval due to clinical deficiencies remains in place.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Long, to remove conditional approval of Stone Academy's West Haven Campus Evening Program due to compliance with the passing rate requirement.

### **SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Helen Smith, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a summary of nursing scope of practice inquiries received by the Department of Public Health during April 2019.

### **CRITERIA FOR REINSTATEMENT OF LAPSED LICENSES**

The Board reviewed the curriculum for the South Dakota State University South Dakota refresher program for licensed practical nurses.

The Board discussed reaching out to Charter Oak College to determine if the LPN to RN Bridge Course could be used as an LPN refresher.

### **MEMORANDA OF DECISION**

Amanda Alarcon, RN - Petition No. 2017-1460

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Alarcon's registered nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Mary Dietmann and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Laurie Davidson, LPN - Petition No. 2015-1397

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Davidson's licensed practical nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who abstained. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Karina Francis, RN - Petition No. 2017-1046

Mary Dietmann moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Francis' registered nurse license be suspended for a period of six months, with four years concurrent probation. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Dana Kendrick, RN - Petition No. 2018-138

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that Ms. Kendrick's registered nurse license be revoked. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

### **MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

Heather Breen, RN - Petition No. 2018-871

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges in this matter based on Ms. Breen's surrender of her license.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Elizaida Delgado to grant the motion to withdraw the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

### **MOTIONS FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

#### Concetta Mancini, RN - Petition No. 2019-412

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Concetta Mancini. Ms. Mancini was present but was not represented by counsel.

Mary Brown moved to deny the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is not a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety and welfare. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. The Board recommends that Ms. Mancini's current license probation remain in place.

#### Christopher Kay, RN - Petition No. 2019- 97

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Christopher Kay. Mr. Kay was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension in that respondent's continued practice as a nurse is a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety and welfare. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed with all in favor except Jason Blando who was opposed. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing will be scheduled for June 19, 2019.

### **CONSENT ORDERS**

#### Luisa Young, RN - Petition No. 2018-1378

Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Luisa Young, RN.

Attorney John D'Ambrosio was present on behalf of represented.

Mary Dietmann moved and Mary Brown seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Young's license on probation for one year with a reprimand and a \$2500.00 civil penalty. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

#### Tammy Piccirillo, LPN - Petition No. 2018-684

Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Tammy Piccirillo, LPN.

Ms. Piccirillo was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Piccirillo's license on probation for four years. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

#### Amanda Hansen, LPN - Petition No. 2018-1156

Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Amanda Hansen, LPN.

Attorney Robert Wilson was present on behalf of represented.

Jennifer Long moved and Lisa Freeman seconded, to approve the Consent Order which reprimand's Ms. Hansen's license. The motion passed with all in favor except Jason Blando and Mary Brown who were opposed. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

#### Danielle Miranda, RN - Petition No: 2019-87

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Danielle Miranda, RN.

Ms. Miranda was present but was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to approve the Consent Order. Jennifer Long moved and Mary Brown voted in favor of the motion, all others were opposed, therefore the motion failed. It was recommended that a narcotic key restriction be added to the Order.

Sandra Rowe, LPN - Petition No. 2019-86

Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Sandra Rowe, LPN.

Ms. Rowe was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Lisa Freeman moved and Jennifer Long seconded, to approve the Consent Order which places Ms. Rowe's license on probation for four years. The motion with all in favor except Geraldine Marrocco who was opposed. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Nikita Culton, RN - Petition No. 2018-1364

Matthew Antonetti, Principal Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in the matter of Nikita Culton, RN.

Ms. Culton was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann moved and Elizaida Delgado seconded, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a reprimand and a \$500.00 civil penalty. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

**HEARINGS**

Allyson Allen, LPN - Petition No. 2017-429

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented by counsel.

Mary Dietmann moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded to enter executive session to take testimony pertaining to confidential treatment records. The motion passed unanimously. The Board entered executive session from 12:16 p.m. to 1:18 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that Ms. Allen be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Marrocco made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann that Ms. Allen's license be placed on probation for four years with conditions, including AA/NA meeting attendance and no home care provision. The motion passed unanimously.

*Geraldine Marrocco left the meeting at 1:35 p.m.*

Lunch 1:35 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Jennifer Rivers-Biltcliff, LPN - Petition No. 2017-1043

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Respondent was present but was not represented

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Rivers-Biltcliff be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Dietmann seconded that Ms. Rivers-Biltcliff's license be placed on probation for one year with conditions, including random urine drug, employer evaluations and an education requirement. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair  
Board of Examiners for Nursing